



ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Facilities Department
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PROJECT: Clark Middle School Renewal

SUBJECT: Final Draft Ed Spec Review/Concept Design Kickoff –
Building Design Committee Meeting

TIME/DATE: 3:00 p.m. March 9, 2006

LOCATION: Clark Middle School Band Room, 150 Bragaw St., Anchorage

PREPARED BY: Michael Logan

ATTENDEES:

Cessilye Williams	Clark Middle School – Principal
Leslie Vandergaw	ASD – Executive Director of Middle Schools
Barbie Neeson	Stone Soup Group
Lorena Scalph	Clark Middle School – English/French Teacher
Scott Kluever	Clark Middle School – Science Teacher/Chair
Ghislaine Gillespie	Clark Middle School – Counseling Chair
John Gallup	Clark Middle School – Science Teacher
John Cleveland	Clark Middle School – Band Teacher
Ramona Rivers	Clark Middle School – FCS Teacher/Dept. Chair
Robert Tornfelt	Anchorage School District – Orchestra Teacher
Michael Carlson	McCool Carlson Green Architects
John Weir	McCool Carlson Green Architects
Amy Yurko	BrainSpaces – Educational Planner
Rob Balivet	ASD Facilities – Manager Design Planning
Mary Cary	ASD Facilities – Project Manager
Michael Logan	ASD Facilities – Project Support Team

These meeting notes are ASD's interpretations of items discussed and decisions made. Any changes are to be sent to ASD in writing by March 22, 2006. After that date the minutes will stand as written.

- I) Outline and Purpose of Meeting: Following introductions and distribution of minutes, Amy Yurko of Brainspaces presented the Clark Middle School Final Draft Ed Spec. As a basis for discussion of the Concept Design, Michael Carlson of McCool Carlson Green presented a proposed list of goals and objectives and a series of examples of learning model layouts. Various program space adjacencies

and attributes were discussed and issues addressed. Attendees set Tuesday, March 14 as the school tours date.

- II) Introductions – the committee welcomed four new attendees: Barbie Neeson of the Stone Soup Group in Mountain View; Anchorage School District Orchestra Teacher Robert Tornfelt; Clark Middle School Band Teacher John Cleveland; and Clark Middle School Renewal project architect John Weir of McCool Carlson Green Architects.
- III) Meeting Minutes – copies of the draft minutes of the January 11, 2006 Preliminary Draft Ed Spec Review Building Design Committee Meeting were distributed to all attendees.
- IV) Educational Specifications Final Draft – presentation by Amy Yurko of BrainSpaces
 - 1. Ms. Yurko outlined key content of the Final Draft, including changes made from user input during meetings with Department Chairs over the last two days. These changes include: a movable partition between two of the full size classrooms in each pod to allow team teaching; orchestra instrument storage separated from the band instruments and put in the orchestra class room; music office to have visual connection to both the music classrooms and the practice rooms hallway; adjustments to provide closer connection between Administrative and Student Services offices and channel traffic in these offices.
 - 2. Team configuration – users have asked whether each pod of three teams will house an entire grade level or each pod will house one team from each grade level. “The answer,” Ms. Yurko said, “is yes.” The Ed Spec will have the flexibility to allow the school to use either configuration or to switch between the two configurations.
 - 3. Ed Spec schedule – Additional minor changes from comments collected today and tomorrow will be incorporated in the coming week. After review by ASD upper management, the final version of the Clark Ed Spec will go before the School Board for approval.
- V) Project Design Overview – Presentation by Michael Carlson of McCool Carlson Green Architects and Amy Yurko
 - 1. Schedule; Goals and Objectives – After reviewing the schedule for the overall Renewal and the Concept Design Phase of the next three months, Mr. Carlson listed Renewal goals and objectives including safety, facilitation of learning, a welcoming feeling, flexibility for future use, cost effectiveness, sustainability, minimizing disruption due to construction, and creating a unique image that reflects the spirit of the Clark Middle School

community. Mr. Carlson asked for additional major issues to be considered. Attendees agreed the list presented was a good one.

2. Learning Team Models – Research has shown that student success increases in smaller learning communities and with project-based learning. An initial focus of the concept design is to define what learning team layouts will best support these strategies for Clark, while allowing future flexibility. Slides were shown of layouts from a number of different schools. Some of the ideas highlighted, which may or may not be applicable for Clark but were intended to spark creativity:
 - A. Use of the library as a circulation zone
 - B. A stage that could work off of either side (gym and MPR)
 - C. Vertical connectivity between two floor levels
 - D. Layouts that “support learning in a very visible and active way” with details that express curriculum
 - E. Children’s museum spaces

VI) Discussion

1. Relocatables – will most likely not be needed upon Renewal completion; however, the Municipality requires plans to be submitted that provide accommodation for future relos.
2. Nooks and crannies – should be minimized where they could pose security problems; however, a varied circulation pathway can be desirable if safety and security are not compromised.
3. Music software – some students may benefit from access to Garage Band or other music composition/mixing software.
4. Practice Rooms – One practice room could be made larger to accommodate small groups. However, the space added to this room would have to be subtracted from space elsewhere in the music program.

VII) Meetings

1. School tours
 - A. Attendees tentatively scheduled Tuesday, March 14 as the date for the School Tours.

B. Schools to be visited: Mirror Lake Middle School; Golden View Middle School. Wendler Middle School will be included time permitting.

C. Objectives

- i. Achieve common ground for discussions
- ii. Observe students interacting with the learning models
- iii. Potential opportunity to engage teachers at the sites in discussion/comment

2. The next Clark BDC meeting will be held from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM on Wednesday, March 15 in the Clark Library. The March 15th meeting will focus on learning team layouts as a key component of the design, and explore the concept of a learning signature that both expresses and supports the way in which Clark students learn.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

CC: Meeting Attendees
File